AMENDMENT AND PRESENTATION OF CLAIMS

Please replace all prior claims in the present application with the following claims, in which claims 1, 5, 7, 11, 20 and 24 are currently amended.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for monitoring a communication system ~~that includes a platform configured to perform a plurality of performance enhancing functions~~, the method comprising:

receiving information relating to configuration parameters <u>for configuring a platform within the communication system to provide performance enhancing functions relating to performance of the communication system, the configuration parameters being</u> ~~as~~ specified in a profile of the platform <u>configured to support the performance enhancing functions</u>;

selectively modifying the profile in response to the received information; and

forwarding the modified profile to the platform.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the modified profile is forwarded as a single file.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the communication system is partitioned into a plurality of network management domains to control access network management information.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

maintaining a default profile for the platform.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the profile in the receiving step includes at least one of a <u>Transmission Control Protocol (TCP)</u> spoofing ~~kernel~~ parameter <u>that includes a field to indicate whether a TCP connection supported by the platform is to be spoofed</u>, a backbone protocol ~~kernel~~ parameter <u>that includes a field to identify a backbone connection supporting the performance enhancing functions</u>, a prioritization ~~kernel~~ parameter <u>that includes a field for specifying prioritized access to the backbone connection</u>, ~~and~~ <u>or</u> a path selection parameter <u>that includes a field for specifying a rule for routing packets over paths within the communication system</u>.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

selectively storing the information at least within the platform and within a database that is

separate from the platform.

7. (Original) A communication system comprising:

a platform configured to provide performance enhancing functions <u>relating to performance of the</u>

<u>communication system</u>, the platform having a profile that specifies configuration parameters <u>for</u>

<u>configuring the platform with respect to the performance enhancing functions</u>; and

a network management system communicating with the platform, the network management

system being configured to receive information relating to the configuration parameters as specified in the

profile, wherein the network management system is configured to selectively modify the profile in

response to the received information and to forward the modified profile to the platform.

8. (Original) The system according to claim 7, wherein the modified profile is received as a single

file by the network management system.

9. (Original) The system according to claim 7, wherein the communication system is partitioned

into a plurality of network management domains to control access network management information.

10. (Original) The system according to claim 7, wherein the network management system

maintains a default profile of the platform.

11. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 7, wherein the profile includes at least

one of a <u>Transmission Control Protocol (TCP)</u> spoofing ~~kernel~~ parameter <u>that includes a field to indicate</u>

<u>whether a TCP connection supported by the platform is to be spoofed</u>, a backbone protocol ~~kernel~~

parameter <u>that includes a field to identify a backbone connection supporting the performance enhancing</u>

<u>functions</u>, a prioritization ~~kernel~~ parameter <u>that includes a field for specifying prioritized access to the</u>

backbone connection, ~~and~~ or a path selection parameter <u>that includes a field for specifying a rule for routing packets over paths within the communication system</u>.

12. (Original) The system according to claim 7, wherein the platform includes a local disk configured to storing the information from the management agent.

13. (Original) The system according to claim 7, wherein the network management system includes a database configured to storing the information from the management agent.

14. (Original) A network apparatus for monitoring a communication system that includes a platform configured to perform a plurality of performance enhancing functions, the apparatus comprising:

means for receiving information relating to configuration parameters as specified in a profile of the platform;

means for selectively modifying the profile in response to the received information; and

means for forwarding the modified profile to the platform.

15. (Original) The system according to claim 14, wherein the modified profile is forwarded as a single file.

16. (Original) The system according to claim 14, wherein the communication system is partitioned into a plurality of network management domains to control access network management information.

17. (Original) The system according to claim 14, further comprising:

means for maintaining a default profile for the platform.

18. (Original) The system according to claim 14, wherein the profile includes at least one of a TCP spoofing kernel parameter, a backbone protocol kernel parameter, a prioritization kernel parameter, and a path selection parameter.

19. (Original) The system according to claim 14, further comprising:

means for selectively storing the information at least within the platform and within a database that is separate from the platform.

20. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of one or more instructions for monitoring a communication system ~~that includes a platform configured to perform a plurality of performance enhancing functions~~, the one or more sequences of one or more instructions including instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

receiving information relating to configuration parameters <u>for configuring a platform within the communication system to provide performance enhancing functions relating to performance of the communication system, the configuration parameters being</u> as specified in a profile of the platform <u>configured to support the performance enhancing functions</u>;

selectively modifying the profile in response to the received information; and

forwarding the modified profile to the platform.

21. (Original) The computer-readable medium according to claim 20, wherein the modified profile is forwarded as a single file.

22. (Original) The computer-readable medium according to claim 20, wherein the communication system is partitioned into a plurality of network management domains to control access network management information.

23. (Original) The computer-readable medium according to claim 20, wherein the one or more processors further perform the step of:

maintaining a default profile for the platform.

24. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium according to claim 20, wherein the profile in the receiving step includes at least one of a <u>Transmission Control Protocol (TCP)</u> spoofing ~~kernel~~

12

parameter that includes a field to indicate whether a TCP connection supported by the platform is to be spoofed, a backbone protocol ~~kernel~~ parameter that includes a field to identify a backbone connection supporting the performance enhancing functions, a prioritization ~~kernel~~ parameter that includes a field for specifying prioritized access to the backbone connection, ~~and~~ or a path selection parameter that includes a field for specifying a rule for routing packets over paths within the communication system.

25. (Original) The computer-readable medium according to claim 20, wherein the one or more processors further perform the step of:

selectively storing the information at least within the platform and within a database that is separate from the platform.